## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 OES-07 SS-15 L-03 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-14 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-07 DODE-00 SP-02 /106 R

DRAFTED BY USDOE:AGIAMBUSSO:MIM APPROVED BY OES/NET/EST:JBORIGHT S/AS:PFARLEY L:JSMITH (SUBSTANCE) DOE:JGLASGOW

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P 231625Z JAN 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 017357

US

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: INFCE, TECH

SUBJECT: DISTRIBUTION OF INFCE DOCUMENTS

UNDERSTANDING SHOULD BE REACHED CONCERNING THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF DOCUMENTS RECEIVED OR PREPARED BY THE EIGHT INFCE WORKING GROUPS. IN ITS ROLE AS INFCE SECRETARIAT, THE AGENCY APPEARS WELL SITUATED TO ASK INFCE PARTICIPANTS WHETHER THEY DESIRE THAT WORKING PAPERS BE CIRCULATED ONLY TO THE WORKING GROUPS AND THAT PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION OCCUR ONLY WHEN FINAL PAPERS ARE ISSUED. UNLESS MISSION IS AWARE OF REASONS WHY AGENCY WOULD NOT BE RECEPTIVE TO INQUIRY, WE ASK THAT MISSION APPROACH AGENCY TO ASCERTAIN ITS WILLINGNESS TO CANVASS INFCE PARTICIPANTS TO GET THEIR VIEWS ON CIRUNCLASSIFIED

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CULATION OF DOCUMENTS. END SUMMARY.

1. PROGRESS OF INFCE WOULD BE FACILITATED IF A POLICY IS ESTABLISHED CONCERNING THE DISTRIBUTION OF PAPERS RECEIVED OR GENERATED BY THE WORKING GROUPS. EACH GROUP WILL OF COURSE CONSIDER A WIDE RANGE OF PAPERS AND SELECT AND EDIT MATERIAL BEFORE ARRIVING AT A PRODUCT TO BE SUB-

MITTED TO THE TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR ITS VIEWS, AND FINALLY A PRODUCT FOR BROAD DISTRIBUTION TO MEMBER NATIONS. SINCE WORKING PAPERS WILL NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT FINAL TECHNICAL DATA AND VIEWS REACHED DURING INFCE, WIDE DISTRIBUTION OF SUCH PAPERS COULD HAMPER THE WHOLE EXERCISE. WHILE THE U.S. HAS NOT RAISED THE ISSUE WITH INFCE PARTICIPANTS, WE FEEL MOST WOULD SHARE OUR VIEW.

- 2. THE PREFERRED APPROACH IN OUR VIEW WOULD BE TO HAVE ALL INFCE PARTICIPANTS ADDRESS WORKING PAPERS TO THE WORKING GROUP (OR GROUPS) FOR WHICH THEY INTENDED. AS WORK PROGRESSES, A GROUP'S WORK PRODUCT WOULD REMAIN WITHIN THE GROUP AND SUPPORTING ELEMENTS TO THE GROUP MEMBERS UNLESS THAT GROUP DECIDES THAT THE PAPER SHOULD ALSO BE DISTRIBUTED TO ONE OR MORE OF THE OTHER 7 GROUPS. ANY REQUESTS FOR COPIES OF SUCH WORKING PAPERS FOR PUBLIC DISSEMINATION WOULD BE DENIED.
- 3. THE U.S. MUST ALSO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY THAT REQUESTS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) WILL REQUIRE RELEASE OF WORKING PAPERS PREPARED FOR INFCE BY U.S. PARTICIPANTS OR DISTRIBUTED TO U.S. REPRESENTATIVES BY OTHER PARTICIPANTS. DOE HAS PREPARED A STUDY OF FOIA ISSUES AND HAS GENERALLY CONCLUDED THAT THE FOIA SHOULD NOT PRESENT SERIOUS PROBLEMS. THAT WHICH IS UNCLASSIFIED

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TRULY SENSITIVE BECAUSE OF ITS COMMERCIAL OR FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS CAN IN MOST CASES BE PROTECTED FROM DIS-CLOSURE UNDER EXEMPTION 4 OF THE ACT. WHERE THE CLASSIFICATION REQUIREMENTS ARE MET, THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF SENSITIVE MATTERS INVOLVING NATIONAL DEFENSE OR FOREIGN AFFAIRS CAN BE ENSURED. DOCUMENTS WHICH DO NOT FIT EXEMPTIONS 1 OR 4 MAY NOT BE SENSITIVE IN MANY CASES. AND ANALYTICAL OR POLICY DOCUMENTS PREPARED BY U.S. ENTITIES SHOULD BE PROTECTABLE UNDER EXEMPTION 5. INFORMING THE PARTICIPANTS IN GENERAL TERMS OF THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE FOIA MAY IN SOME CASES REQUIRE DISCLOSURE OF WORKING DOCUMENTS HAS THE ADVANTAGE OF AVOIDING POSSIBLE CHARGES THAT THE U.S. WITHHELD IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE PARTICIPANTS. ON THE OTHER HAND, SUCH DISCUSSION OF THE FOIA MAY RAISE MANY QUESTIONS AND REQUIRE THE U.S. TO ATTEMPT TO EXPLAIN THE COMPLEXITIES OF THE FOIA. TO AVOID HIGHLIGHTING POTENTIAL DOCUMENT DISCLOSURE UNDER U.S. LAW, THE U.S. COULD ASK THE AGENCY TO INQUIRE GENERALLY OF PARTICIPANTS CONCERNING THE BEARING OF THEIR DOMESTIC LAW ON THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF DOCUMENTS GENERATED FOR INFCE. SUCH AN INQUIRY PERFERABLY WOULD BE PART OF THE

AGENCY'S GENERAL SURVEY (SHOULD IT AGREE TO DO ONE) OF THE PARTICIPANTS' VIEWS CONCERNING DOCUMENT HANDLING PROCEDURES.

5. REQUEST THAT MISSION ADVISE REGARDING AGENCY REACTION. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

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Subject: DISTRIBUTION OF INFCE DOCUMENTS UNDERSTANDING SHOULD BE REACHED CONCERNING THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED OR PREPARED TAGS: TECH, INFCE
To: VIENNA

Type: TE

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**Review Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released **US** Department of State EO Systematic Review

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